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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/826,359	04/05/2001	Shigeki Totsuka	010496	3990
23850	7590	09/06/2002		

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

CUEVAS, PEDRO J

[REDACTED] ART UNIT

[REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/826,359	TOTSUKA, SHIGEKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Pedro J. Cuevas	2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The indicated allowability of claim 2 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Tanikoshi. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Stepping Motor And Driving Apparatus Having Separate Position Detecting Coil.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,206,571 to Burri in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,831,072 to Tanikoshi.

Burri disclose the construction of a stepping motor (10), comprising:

exciting coils (15 and 16);

a rotor (11) provided with a plurality of N/S poles so as to rotate following a change of an excitation state of the exciting coils;

a driven member (103) linked with the rotor;

a stopper (104) for mechanically stopping the driven member at a predetermined position;

a first exciting means (43 with Q41 and Q44 on) to normally or reversely rotate the rotor by controlling the excitation state of the exciting coils;

a second exciting means (43 with Q41 and Q44 off) for reversing the rotor in a direction of making the driven member move toward the predetermined position by controlling the excitation state of the exciting coils;

a position detecting means for detecting the driven member having abutted the stopper and stopped at the predetermined position on a basis of induction voltage generated in the detecting coil during control by the second exciting means; and

a controlling means (17) for stopping the first exciting means controlling and starting the second exciting means controlling when an instruction signal is inputted, and for starting the first exciting means controlling and stops the second exciting means controlling when the position detecting means detects the driven member having stopped at the predetermined position.

However, it fails to disclose a detecting coil provided separately from the exciting coils so as to generate an induction voltage according to rotation of the rotor.

Tanikoshi teach the use of a detecting coil (21) in the construction of a DC motor for the purpose of applying a detected voltage to the output terminals of the bridge circuit through the matching circuit so that the rotation of the servomotor may be retarded.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use the detecting coil disclosed by Tanikoshi on the stepping motor disclosed by Burri for the purpose of applying any detected voltage to the desired circuit so that the rotation of a motor may be modified.

6. With regards to claim 2, Tanikoshi disclose the exciting coils being provided along a peripheral surface of the rotor, and the detecting coil being provided at a center of a longest peripheral surface between adjoining exciting coils as shown in Figure 2.

Conclusion

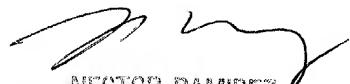
7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pedro J. Cuevas whose telephone number is (703) 308-4904. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Néstor R. Ramírez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-1341 for regular communications and (703) 305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Pedro J. Cuevas
September 3, 2002



NESTOR RAMIREZ
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